

Qadhafi leaves Algeria after talks

AMMERS (R) — Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi left Algiers on Wednesday at the end of a four-day official visit devoted in part to political talks on the possibility of uniting the two countries. Accompanied by a big delegation including senior military officers, he had two rounds of talks with President Chadli Bendjedid and other Algerian leaders and addressed the National Assembly. Algerian officials revealed very little about the content or nature of the talks and his visit was given low-key coverage by the state-controlled media. Diplomats said that apart from a Libyan proposal to create a federation between the two countries, topics at the talks were believed to have included the situation in North Africa and the Arab World and strengthening of bilateral relations, particularly in the economic field.

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5th heart transplant performed

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's fifth heart transplant operation was conducted here Wednesday on a 46-year-old man at the Queen Alia Heart Institute at the King Hussein Medical Centre. Sabri Mohammad Elayyan, a retired armed forces personnel, received the heart of a 22-year-old woman. The medical team which conducted the transplant was headed by Lieutenant-General Dr. Dawoud Hananiyah, director of the Royal Medical Services Hospital. Hospital sources said that Mr. Elayyan was in a "very good" health condition. The family of the donor woman also donated her kidneys to two patients. The identity of the cause of death of the donor was not immediately known.

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Abu Taleb praises Iraqi armed forces

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb has emphasised that Iraq's military superiority was growing steadily despite fierce Iranian assaults in the almost seven-year-old Gulf war. In an interview published Wednesday in the Iraqi newspaper Al Qudsieh, Lt.-Gen. Abu Taleb, who is currently visiting Iraq, said the military capabilities of the Iraqi armed forces were the result of high-quality training. Lt.-Gen. Abu Taleb noted that Iraq's defensive strategy was unique and based on geographic reality and counts on the most advanced defensive methods in the world.

Gorbachev meets Carter in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn met with Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev in the Kremlin on Wednesday. There was no immediate report on the meeting by Soviet media, but American and Soviet photographers were allowed to film the first few minutes of the session. Communist Party International Affairs Secretary Anatoly F. Dobrynin, former ambassador to the United States, also participated in the talks and got a warm greeting from the former president. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Mr. Carter, who served in the White House from January 1977 through January 1981, arrived Tuesday.

Pakistani sentenced to death for killing Soviet diplomat

ISLAMABAD (R) — A court here on Wednesday sentenced a young Pakistani to death for killing a senior Soviet diplomat last year in the belief it would further his ambition to live in the Soviet Union, court officials said. Judge Syed Mohammad Zafar Babar found Zafar Ahmad, 26, guilty of "wanton and cold-blooded murder" of Military Attaché Colonel Fyodor Gorenkov and sentenced him to hang, they said. Col. Gorenkov was shot twice in the head in front of his wife and a 10-year-old daughter here on Sept. 16. Ahmad, who had pleaded guilty, told officials he wanted to live in the Soviet Union and thought the shooting would help him go there.

Swiss court rules against Marcos

LAUSANNE (AP) — The Swiss supreme court, setting a precedent, ruled Wednesday that Swiss judicial authorities can assist the Philippines in the bid to recover \$1 billion of "ill-gotten wealth" allegedly channeled to Switzerland by ousted President Ferdinand E. Marcos and his clan. The court go-ahead from the federal tribunal came by rejecting a set of nine appeals filed by Marcos, his wife Imelda, and two associates, Roberto Salas Benedicto and Ignacio Jimenez. All had demanded that the court declare inadmissible any judicial assistance requested by the government of Corazon Aquino. Rejection of the appeals opened the way for judicial authorities in Zurich, Geneva, and Fribourg to investigate whether Marcos illegally obtained any assets held in these cantons. Swiss bank secrecy law does not apply in criminal investigations.

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Murphy: Main U.S. objective in Gulf is end to Iran-Iraq war

American official asserts curtailing Soviet influence in the region is secondary in strategy

By Louis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior American official on Wednesday sought to allay fears in the Gulf and elsewhere in the Middle East that the U.S. plan to protect Kuwaiti tankers against Iranian attacks was mainly aimed at curtailing Soviet influence by asserting that the major American objective was to achieve peace in the area by putting an end to the almost seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

The American message came across during a special satellite press conference held by Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Richard Murphy. The conference was set up by the U.S. Information Agency

(USIS) with journalists in Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

During the conference, which was monitored by journalists here at the USIS centre, Mr. Murphy said that American national interests would be served best in the Gulf if "peace was achieved in the area."

"The American interests are threatened by the continuation of the war," he said.

Mr. Murphy stressed that the American moves should be viewed in the context of the ongoing efforts by the United Nations Security Council to draft resolutions to put an end to the Gulf war.

The American official described the Security Council effort to draft a two-stage propos-

al to settle the Iran-Iraq conflict as "an unprecedented international effort" pointing out that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz would be directly involved in discussions leading to the formulation of a peaceful settlement.

Mr. Murphy was responding to fears and strong doubts which were expressed by the Gulf journalists that America's main concern was to curtail Soviet influence at the expense of the region's interests and stability. Such fears have also been expressed by a number of Gulf newspapers over the last two weeks, particularly following repeated statements by American officials that the U.S. action was aimed at

(Continued on page 4)

Unknown group claims holding Glass

BEIRUT (AP) — A previously unknown group on Wednesday claimed it kidnapped American journalist Charles Glass because he was a U.S. spy, gathering information for Israel.

Lebanese police and Syrian military sources say they doubt the authenticity of the claim.

The Voice of the Nation radio said "the Organisation for the Free People's Defence" claimed Mr. Glass' abduction in a typewritten Arabic statement delivered to the station's office in the southern city of Sidon.

The statement charged Mr. Glass, 36, was a spy sent by the U.S. government to Lebanon on a special mission to "gather information for Israel."

Mr. Glass, a former correspondent for the American ABC Television network who was researching on a book on the Middle East, was grabbed by 14 gunmen in south Beirut's Ouzai seaside suburb on June 17.

He was kidnapped along with Ali Ossiran, son of Lebanese Defence Minister Adel Ossiran. The younger Ossiran was freed a week later.

"Despite public claims by the American administration banning Americans from travelling to Lebanon, it did not cease sending its spies and agents on special missions," the statement said.

"Glass was one of them... he was sent to the south to spy and gather information for Israel," the statement added. "He used his friends, including Ali Ossiran, to enter Lebanon. We

(Continued on page 4)

(See related story on page 2)

Kelly: Talk of U.S.-Syrian rapprochement is premature

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A special American envoy to Damascus will see if U.S.-Syrian relations can be improved but talk of a rapprochement is premature, U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon John Kelly said Wednesday.

"President Reagan and (Syrian President Hafez Al) Assad agreed that an American envoy will visit Damascus to see if it's possible to improve relations between the two countries," Mr. Kelly told reporters.

"I think it's a little premature to talk about a rapprochement between the United States and Syria," he said after meeting Lebanese President Amin Gemayel.

Mr. Kelly said he briefed Mr. Gemayel on the U.S. initiative to improve relations with Syria.

The Reagan administration has not announced who will visit Damascus. There have been

press reports that the envoy will be the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, currently on a visit to Moscow.

The United States has had no ambassador in Damascus since last October when William Eagleton was recalled after Britain accused Syria of involvement in an alleged plot to blow up an Israeli airliner flying from London. Damascus denied the charge.

A White House spokesman said last week U.S. officials had seen enough changes in Syria's attitude to suggest a dialogue might be productive, and he cited Syrian help in "terrorist situations."

Mr. Kelly said the mission of the U.S. envoy was "not specifically confined to hostages, but we think in advance any party that can help free American hostages."

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Syria 'not to resume Gemayel talks until Karami killers found'

BEIRUT (R) — Syria has said it will not resume talks with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel until the killers of Prime Minister Rashid Karami are prosecuted, political sources said Wednesday.

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(Continued on page 4)

(See related story on page 2)

Official talks between the two leaders began at the Royal Court shortly after Dr. Waldheim, accompanied by his wife, arrived at the Marka Airport at 4 p.m. The first round of talks was attended by senior officials from both countries.

In a speech he delivered at a

dinner banquet held later in the evening in honour of the Austrian leader, the King praised Dr. Waldheim's efforts towards achieving regional and world peace.

He praised Dr. Waldheim's prominent role during his two terms as United Nations secretary general and in convening an in-

ternational peace conference in the Middle East in 1973. Referring to current efforts to convene a similar peace conference, the King said that despite the worldwide support that the idea had received, "there are a number of obstacles which need to be overcome."

"Foremost among those is the lack of consensus in Israel accepting the land for peace formula — a concept rooted in international law and the principles of the United Nations," the King said, adding: "It is this obstacle that has enabled the Israeli occupation to persist on its aggressive course for twenty years."

On the Gulf war, the King said Iran was responsible for the continuation of the conflict by its insistence on prolonging "this destructive war which threatens

the security of the entire region and the peace of the world at large." He said Iran was seeking "to widen the scale of the Gulf war, as indicated by its hostile provocations aimed at the state of Kuwait."

The King called on Dr. Waldheim to "continue to exercise" his good offices with all concerned parties and organisations towards reaching a peaceful settlement to problems in the Middle East.

In a reply speech, Dr. Waldheim praised the King's "uncompromising belief in the resolution of international conflicts through peaceful means, as stipulated in the U.N. Charter and other international instruments."

The Austrian leader supported Jordan's drive towards convening an international peace conference

on the Middle East. "I am happy to reiterate once more the Austrian government's support for this plan. It has always been our conviction that through acceptance of the legitimate interests of all parties concerned and through honest negotiations a solution to the Middle East problem can be found," he said.

Dr. Waldheim extended a formal invitation to the King and Queen Noor for an official state visit to Austria.

Earlier in the day, the King awarded Dr. Waldheim the Husseini Bin Ali Medal, the Kingdom's highest decoration named after the King's great-grandfather. Mrs. Waldheim was awarded the Al Nabda Medal and Foreign Minister Ahmet Mock,

(Continued on page 4)

Iraq reports hitting ship off Iran

BAHRAYN (Agencies) — Iraq said its jet fighters raided a large ship off Iran's coast on Wednesday, a day after an Iranian gunboat rocketed a Kuwaiti freighter in the Gulf.

Baghdad Radio said the warplanes "scored an accurate and effective hit on a large maritime target," an Iraqi military term for a large vessel, often an oil tanker.

Gulf-based marine salvage executives said no independent confirmation of the Iraqi attack was immediately available, nor were there any details as to the ship's name or nationality.

Baghdad Radio said the jets struck at 10:35 a.m. off the Iranian coast, but did not give the precise location of the attack.

The Iranians recently have followed a pattern of retaliating two to four days after every Iraqi attack, by hitting a ship in the central sector of the Gulf.

The Iraqis usually attack ships near Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal, within a 70-nautical-mile radius of military exclusive zone in the northeastern Gulf.

Iraq on Tuesday sent a gunboat raiding the 32,534-ton Kuwaiti cargo ship Al Mirkab at a point near where Iranian gunboats fired missiles that hit two Scandinavian supertankers on the northeastern Gulf.

Iraq attacks tankers ferrying Iranian oil and Iran strikes at Kuwait-linked vessels because of of Kuwait's support for Iraq's war effort.

Iraq on Wednesday celebrated the 800th anniversary of Saladin's armies defeating the Crusaders

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Palestinians recount Jewish attacks on them in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV (R) — Jewish Arab tensions flared in a Tel Aviv suburb this week when Israelis armed with knives attacked Palestinian workers and vandalised their apartment, the Arab residents said Wednesday.

A few people came and knocked on the door, so we opened it. They immediately began to break windows. They had knives and hoes and wanted to beat us," one Arab victim told Israel Radio.

He said the attack on Tuesday came after Jewish residents of the Ganai Tikva suburb threatened violence if he and two of his friends did not move out of their apartment within 24 hours.

"One raised a stick and began to hit me on my head, my hands and legs," the victim told the radio.

"They said we are informing you there will be problems, fires and slayings as long as there are Arabs here. We are telling you to get rid of them quickly."

Last week tensions flared in Ramat Aviv, another Tel Aviv suburb, when Jews wounded two Arab brothers, ransacked their apartment and burned down two other flats.

Arabs detained

Military sources said Tuesday the Israeli army detained two Palestinians from the occupied West Bank for six months without trial.

Ahmad Muhammad Ahmad Al Asmar, 21, from Jenin, and Radwan Ahmad Muhammad Ziada, 20, from Hebron, were arrested on charges they were members of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the sources said.

Sheikh Saad Al Qadi of his office to convey his condolences to the Al Qadi family on the death of the deputy.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan deplored Irbid Governor Akram Al Nasser to attend Mr. Qadi's funeral.

The prime minister, Mr. Zaid Rifai, deplored Mafrag Governor Fayed Abbadi to convey his condolences to the bereaved family.

Peres optimistic over China-Israel relations

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Wednesday he believed China would establish diplomatic relations with Israel even before a Middle East peace conference was convened.

Mr. Peres told parliament that in his view China would agree to an Israeli stipulation that it must establish diplomatic ties before it can participate in a proposed U.N.-sponsored peace conference.

"China does not see the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel as an obstacle to its participation in a proposed international conference," he said.

"This means that in our view China accepts as natural the expectation that progress towards peace on the one hand, and its participation in the peace process on the other, will lead to the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel even before the conference is convened," he added.

Earlier, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said diplomatic relations with Israel were out of the question at present despite reports of flourishing commercial links (See page 2).

Mr. Peres said a senior Chinese diplomat had told him at a meeting of

U.S.-Soviet pact seen near on medium-range missiles

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and the Soviet Union have reached an agreement in principle to eliminate all Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe and Asia, but a senator said Wednesday that verification procedures have yet to be determined.

Senator Richard Lugar, a Republican, said he was encouraged by reports that an arms pact could be sealed when Secretary of State George P. Shultz meets in mid-July with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze.

"But the protocol for that destruction (of the missiles) and the verification of how that is to be done, the phasing of how rapidly and how we are to know, are the major points of negotiation," Mr. Lugar said. NBC-TV's "Today" programme.

The Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting is intended to remove major obstacles to an accord and could set the stage for a third superpower summit meeting later this year.

A Reagan

U.S. to protect Kuwaiti ships in Gulf despite strong opposition

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's plan to protect 11 Kuwaiti ships in the Gulf will likely begin in two weeks despite grave fears in Congress that U.S. forces could be dragged into a military confrontation with Iran.

Congressional leaders, after meeting Tuesday with Mr. Reagan, conceded they were virtually helpless to stop the operation to put the U.S. flag on the Kuwaiti ships and protect them from Iranian attack, even though Democrats and Republicans alike were critical.

"There is not any effective way to stop what has been ordered," said House Speaker Jim Wright, a Texas Democrat.

But even as Mr. Reagan announced the operation would begin in mid-July, fears that the United States could be drawn into the nearly seven-year Iranian-Iraq war intensified with the third Iranian attack in as many days on Kuwait-linked ships in the Gulf.

The attacks were apparently in retaliation for two raids on Iranian-linked tankers by Iraq, which began the "tanker war" in 1984 in a bid to cut off Iran's vital oil revenues.

Since then, both nations have hit some 500 ships, with the first

strike on a U.S. vessel coming last May, when an Iraqi frigate hit the frigate Stark in what Baghdad said was an accident.

Although there is deep antagonism between Washington and Tehran, Mr. Reagan has said he does not expect Iran to attack a U.S. flag ship. But critics said Iran could retaliate in ways that would be untraceable, such as the laying of sea mines.

Defense Department officials

Tuesday told Reuters that U.S. naval experts recently found up to a dozen anti-ship mines anchored in international waters near the main Kuwaiti port of Ahmadi. The officials said the mines were apparently planted by Iran to strike Kuwaiti-connected shipping.

Two Iranian officials visiting Western Europe bluntly said Tuesday that the U.S. building in the Gulf — from six to eight ships — could lead to a conflict.

"The recent military buildup

by the United States is a very dangerous course. Who knows who will fire the first shot?" Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Javad Larijani said at a Geneva news conference.

The Persian Gulf is a small region and if the presence of foreign forces and foreign fleets follow the trend we are witnessing, the future of that region is not foreseeable," Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said in Vienna.

The White House said Tuesday that Secretary of State George Shultz would lead a drive in the U.N. Security Council for a cease-fire resolution to be followed by a push for an arms embargo against Iran if it defied the United Nations.

Iraq has agreed to negotiate a settlement while Iran has refused.

Vernon Walters, U.S. envoy to the United Nations, began rallying support for the peace bid Tuesday night at a meeting with Soviet leaders in Moscow.

But the diplomatic drive did not silence critics, who charged anew that Mr. Reagan hastily agreed to the reflagging to keep Moscow out of the Gulf and to boost U.S. credibility in the re-

gion, damaged by secret U.S. arms sales to Iran, without fully assessing the risks.

"It does not restore our credibility in the region to bow to whatever the Kuwaitis demand," New York Democratic Senator Daniel Moynihan said Tuesday as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted to delay the reflagging for a year and to invoke the 1973 war powers act, requiring Mr. Reagan to consult with Congress before sending troops into hostile areas.

Supporters of the measures, however, conceded they would not pass the full Senate, and said the reflagging was unpopular not only in Congress but across the United States.

A new ABC News-Washington Post poll said that while most Americans believe it is important to keep U.S. forces in the region to protect the oil flow and to keep Moscow out, only 49 per cent approve of the reflagging plan.

"I think it is very unwise for this country to engage in a military adventure abroad when the Congress and the public are not in strong support," said California Democratic Senator Alan Cranston.

China's position on opposing the policy of expansion and aggression of Israel remains unchanged," a Foreign Ministry spokesman told a weekly news briefing.

"At present, the establishment of diplomatic relations... is simply out of the question," he said.

China's comments follow the arrival here this week of two leaders of the Israeli Communist Party.

Party Secretary-General Meir Wilner, who is also a member of parliament, said he was carrying no message from the Israeli government.

China has no formal links with Israel, but Israeli newspapers in June quoted Wang Lin Chin, a senior Chinese diplomat in Paris, as saying there were longstanding trade contacts.

China was "very satisfied with the arrangement," the diplomat was reported as saying.

Israel is known to want diplomatic relations with Peking and has said they must be established before Israel accepts China's participation in any Middle East peace conference.

Representatives of the two countries met at the United Nations earlier this year, the first openly acknowledged contacts between the governments.

Meanwhile Israeli leaders said

Tuesday China has expressed interest in establishing diplomatic relations with Israel.

A Foreign Ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday that Mr. Chin expressed Chinese willingness to "welcome any cultural, economic and political contacts with Israel within the framework of an international peace conference."

Peres, who returned Monday from a week-long trip to Europe where he tried to win support from European leaders for such a conference, said on Israel Radio he instructed embassy officials in Paris to "confirm the Chinese' statement."

The report said the two Americans were believed to have been moved out in coffins, drugged and disguised as the bodies of Hezbollah gunmen killed in Beirut.

They were driven from the Bekaa Valley through Syria and Turkey and eventually into Iran.

Mr. Waite, 48, who went missing in January after going to

Lebanon to try and negotiate the release of Western hostages, was thought to have been smuggled out by one of two routes from the southern suburbs of Beirut where he had been held by Hezbollah gunmen, the report said.

He was either taken out on an Iranian ship through the Suez Canal, through the Red Sea, around the Gulf and thence to Iran, or overland through Turkey and Syria.

The report cited the Shi'ite sources as saying Mr. Waite, special envoy of the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, had been mentally and physically harmed during his detention, but he had been in good shape when he was taken to Iran.

ITN also interviewed Lebanese

Druze leader Walid Junhah, whose men were guarding Mr. Waite when he vanished.

Mr. Juijblat said: "It is now up

to the British government to see

if they can do anything about it."

There was no immediate reaction from either the British government or Mr. Waite's employers, the Church of England, to the ITN report.

Western diplomatic sources

said that if the three hostages were being held in Qom, the current bad state of relations between Iran and the two Western allies, Britain and the United States, would make negotiations virtually impossible.

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Vindictive campaign must end

AUSTRIAN President Kurt Waldheim's arrival in Jordan yesterday will no doubt grab world headlines, especially in the Western media. Why? Certainly not because the head of a European state is paying a friendly visit to a friendly Arab country in a bid to strengthen bilateral relations and exchange views, important as indeed they are, on world problems. But, because our visitor is a statesman who has been subjected to a fierce campaign of slander, character assassination and misrepresentation. Those who have instigated the campaign against Dr. Waldheim know exactly what they are doing. It is the duty of the rest of us to find out just what the aims of these people are, or at least not to be misled by them.

If the so-called controversy surrounding Dr. Waldheim is not clear to the world, it is because his foes have the means at their disposal and are so professional at obfuscating issues and manipulating world public opinion to their best advantage.

Take, for example, that statement which an unnamed Israeli official issued yesterday. "Any country which welcomes (Dr. Waldheim) now — as long as (his) case is not clarified — is not taking the right step," the official was quoted as saying by an international news agency which went on to describe this Israeli reaction to the Austrian president's visit here as "muted." Well, the reaction is indeed "muted" if you compare it to what Israeli leaders had to say about Dr. Waldheim's visit to the Vatican last week. But, since when does Israel, especially under a government headed by a terrorist turned leader, has the right to set standards for international norms and behaviour? And then, even after disregarding all the unfair and hostile criticism levelled against the Pope for receiving Dr. Waldheim, since when do Israel and affiliated Jewish groups and other backers have the right to tell others what to do, particularly the victims of Israeli aggression and state terrorism?

Rather than exhort us on what to do and whom not to receive, the Israelis should take a hard look at what they themselves have done to the people of Palestine and what they continue to do to this very day. In the same vein, those Jewish organisations and their backers, who in the name of fighting Nazism and anti-Semitism are compromising and endangering the future of Jews throughout the world, should look again at what they are doing to see whether their cause is served at all by their tactics.

It might not be very difficult for the powerful Zionists to target a single person and a small state, like Dr. Waldheim and Austria, for political and media attacks with claims of a Nazi and anti-Semitic past. But, campaigns as that waged against people and states which have a proven record of working for world peace and prosperity, with justice for all, can all too easily backfire and inflict great harm on all.

They are picking on the wrong person, President Waldheim himself would say. But then, are they not overdoing it, and causing themselves and many others enormous damage as well?

Once again Dr. Waldheim, Mrs. Waldheim, Foreign Minister Mock, and the accompanying delegation, you are most welcome in Jordan. We wish them a successful visit and a happy stay amongst friends.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Welcoming Dr. Waldheim

DEAR Dr. Waldheim, we warmly welcome you to Jordan and wish that every one of us can shake your hand to show our sincerest affection to you. You are most worthy of honouring, and the words that we say cannot express our gratitude to you but we are proud of your visit to our capital and take pride in offering you Arab hospitality. We have lived with you through the battle that had been imposed on you and your people by the enemies of human values and principles; and we rejoiced over your victory and the triumph of Austrian democracy. We share with you and your people the belief in rejecting all forms of domination and tutelage and in supporting just struggle for freedom and democracy. We appreciate your support for the just causes of the Arab people and their struggle against injustice and against occupation and their endeavours to achieve stability and peace. We welcome you in our country and stand by you in fending off all conspiracies and; and all attempts directed against freedom and justice. By welcoming you in Amman we also welcome the great Austrian people and a brave nation that stood fast in the face of the enemies of democracy and freedom.

Al Dustour: Standing with Iraq

KING Hussein visited Baghdad on Tuesday to discuss with President Saddam Hussein the latest developments in the Gulf conflict and also to review current Arab affairs. The on-going war with Iran is of prime concern to Jordan and to Iraq and it is natural for the leaderships of both countries to coordinate their positions and to maintain consultations on issues of common concern. But though Iraq has been engaged in the war for more than six years, its leadership has given attention also to Arab affairs; and Iraq has been coordinating its position with that of the rest of the Arab Nation with the purpose of serving all Arab causes. Iraq's brave steadfastness in the face of Iranian aggression and its calls for a just and honourable peace, have helped maintain mediation efforts by various regional and international organisations to end the conflict. Iraq's honourable stands and its defence of Arab soil have also paved the way for endeavours for ending differences among Arab states and for initiating a joint Arab stand. We share with the Iraqi people their pride in their armed forces, and back all their efforts to abort the Iranian enemy's plans for expansion and domination.

Sawt Al Shaaib: In solidarity with Iraq

KING Hussein's visit to Baghdad and his meeting with President Saddam Hussein are part of his continued efforts seeking the re-establishment of solidarity among Arab countries and promoting Jordanian-Iraqi cooperation. Jordan, under King Hussein continues to be a staunch supporter of Iraq and the Iraqi people in the face of aggression and in their relentless efforts to defend Arab soil. Jordan under King Hussein continues its efforts for mobilising Arab forces and pooling Arab resources for ending the Gulf conflict. For this reason, Jordan's efforts have been deeply appreciated by all Arab and foreign states. It is our belief that a firm Arab stand and joint Arab action can stop the Gulf conflict, and can pave the way for establishing good neighbourly relations between Iran and the Arab Nation. The whole world supports Jordan's views and endeavours for ending this war and the whole Arab Nation is for solidarity which Jordan continues to seek at all levels and through King Hussein's continued meetings with Arab leaders. The Arab Nation which has been plagued with divisions and conflicts for long years look forward to solutions and to peace and stability.

Waldheim's visit symbolises strong Austro-Jordanian ties

By Ali Ghadour

DR. KURT WALDHEIM is welcome in Jordan, both personally and as the head of state of a friendly country. He has been here before as secretary-general of the United Nations, but this is the first time that he visits Jordan as president of the Republic of Austria. Jordan has always enjoyed excellent relations with Austria and Dr. Waldheim's state visit will certainly cement these relations.

From the ashes of World War II and the four-power occupation of Vienna which is reminiscent of Berlin today, Austria has risen to great heights and enjoys an enviable standing, respect and admiration within the comity of nations throughout the world. Austria has resisted being the object of inter-superpower rivalry and maintains at high cost its well-cherished neutrality in spite of its compromising geographic location. The indomitable spirit of the Austrian people has not been conquered and Austria has become a haven for political refugees. Austria has never been found wanting to play a role in the international arena on behalf of worthy and human causes, and the efforts of its leaders, notwithstanding their religious denominations, to advance the peace process in the Middle East are already on record.

It is a great shame that the person of the freely-elected president of the Austrian Republic, who served the U.N. well for ten years, is being attacked vehemently and relentlessly by the World Jewish

Congress because of a dubious historical record which does not stand up to scrutiny, let alone vindication. The vendetta that is being carried out against Dr. Kurt Waldheim by both Israel and the Jewish organisations amounts to a faux pas which does not do any good to anyone. It is tantamount to unwanted interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states, and the exertions that are being made are without parallel in the annals of diplomacy. It is indeed ironic that while a putative incident, over forty years old, is being resurrected, a blind eye is being turned to events that are taking place in the West Bank today. The attack on June 6 by at least 50 Israelis armed with guns and clubs on the sleeping refugee camp of Ibeheisha, near Hebron, has led the *Economist* of June 13 to conclude that "fears of a pogrom are beginning to rise." It is well for Israelis and Jews alike to leave Dr. Waldheim alone and to address the issues nearer home. Since charity begins at home, Israel should seek — and apply — justice in the "occupied territories" rather than dissipate its efforts in a futile and unrewarding exercise.

Jordan takes pride in not having succumbed to the "chorus" of condemnation which is being orchestrated against Dr. Waldheim. The Austrian president comes to Jordan as a proud man and will receive all the honours due to his person and to the great country which he represents.

Austria does not have to be dragged into the limelight against its own will. It is the model of a European democracy to which everyone looks up. Its rich heritage as well as its sense of commitment destine Austria to play an active role in international affairs. The charm of the Austrians pierces barriers, that need not exist, between the various races of the world.

We in Jordan, through the generosity of our Austrian friends, have forged the closest air links between Amman and Vienna and are proud of our accomplishments to date. We have in our own modest way helped Vienna become the international hub it is today and to become truly a gateway between East and West.

We, the Austrians and the Jordanians, have so much to offer each other, particularly that we share common goals and ideals. As we go along our own individual ways, we strive — and struggle — for peace with prosperity for ourselves and the rest of the world. We believe that the present visit to Jordan of the Austrian head of state will fortify our sense of pursuit and endeavour.

We welcome Dr. Kurt Waldheim to our clime and wish him well in the years ahead.

The writer is chairman of the board and chief executive officer, Royal Jordanian. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

Waldheim begins visit to Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

who is accompanying Dr. Waldheim, the Al Kawakib Medal of the First Order.

The Austrian leader, his wife and the accompanying delegation were greeted by a grand welcome ceremony attended by royal family members and senior government officials.

As the Austrian president stepped out of the plane in his dark blue suit, he was greeted by a 21-gun salute. The King then accompanied his guest to review a guard of honour after a military band played the national anthems of Austria and Jordan and four fighter jets screamed low overhead.

Receiving the Austrian leader and the delegation accompanying him, which included 30 journal-

ists, were also His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, His Highness Prince Talal Ibn Mohammad, Their Highnesses Princess Aisha and Princess Zein, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Foreign Minister Taher Al Mastri, Royal Court Chief Marwan Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief Chamberlain His Highness Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Cabinet members and representatives of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions accredited to Jordan. Most were accompanied by their wives.

Following the ceremony, the King and Dr. Waldheim proceeded to the Al Nadwa Palace in a motorcade that went through streets decorated by Austrian and Jordanian flags and banners wel-

coming the Austrian president.

The visit to Jordan by Dr. Waldheim and his wife comes at the invitation of the King who was the first leader to visit Dr. Waldheim in Vienna after his election last year. The Austrian leader's visit here follows a meeting with Pope John Paul last week which broke his year-long self-imposed moratorium on visits abroad.

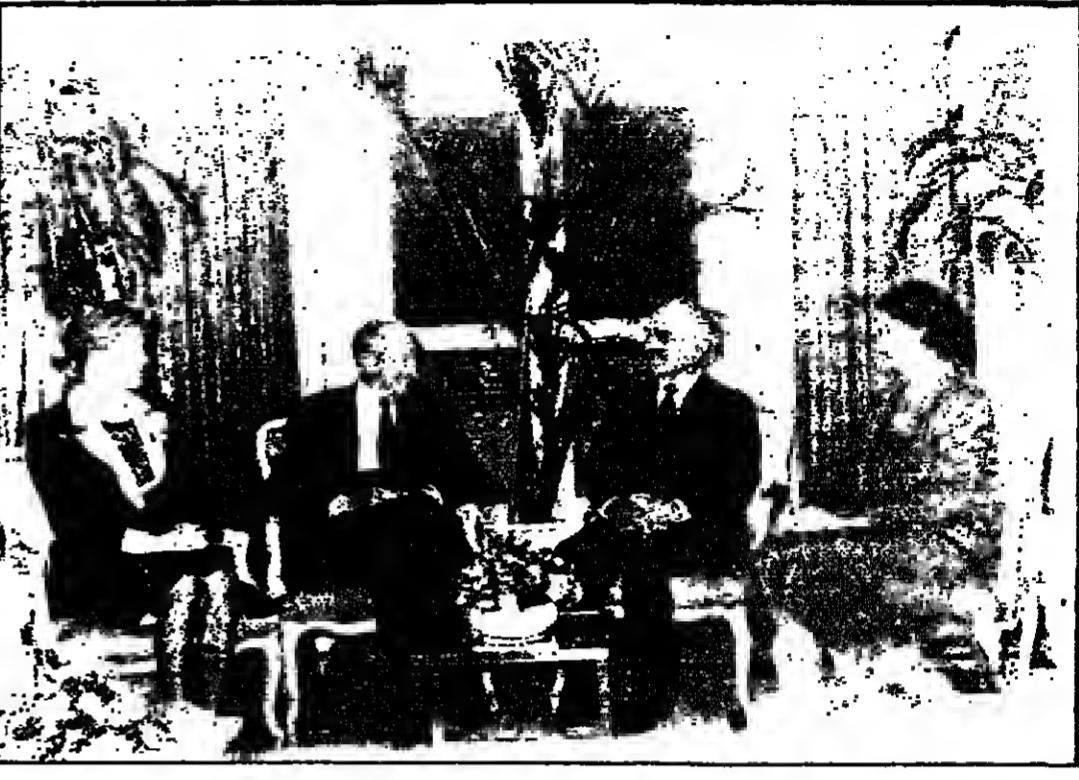
Dr. Waldheim is regarded here highly for his even-handed approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict during his two terms as United Nations secretary-general from 1972 to 1982.

Dr. Waldheim was due to have two rounds of talks with the King. He will also tour the ancient cities of Jerash and Petra and visit the Arab Potash Company built by Austria's Voest Alpine.

During his tenure as U.N. secretary general, important resolutions were adopted by the world body in support of Palestinian rights and in condemnation of the continuing Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

Dr. Waldheim visited Jordan as U.N. chief in 1979 as part of his efforts towards reaching a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Austria supports Jordan's call for the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim and his wife

here Wednesday (Photo by Yousef Al Allan)

and all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Dr. Waldheim's visit to Jordan comes at a time when allegations have been rekindled that the Austrian leader hid a Nazi past involving war crimes during World War II when he served in

the German army in the Balkans. In April this year, the U.S. put Dr. Waldheim on a "watchlist" of undesirable aliens but could not produce any evidence to support the allegations.

In an interview with the Jordan Times on the eve of his visit to Jordan, Dr. Waldheim described

the U.S. "watchlist" as violating international law and underlined the fact that the American Justice Department had not been able to substantiate or justify its action.

"None of these allegations against me is true," he said. "They are fabrications, distortions and misrepresentations."

Murphy: Main U.S. objective is end to Gulf war

(Continued from page 1)

preventing the "Soviet Union from establishing a dominant position in the Gulf."

Mr. Murphy was careful on Wednesday to repeat that although the superpower rivalry was an important element in shaping American policy in the Gulf the main goal remained that of achieving peace.

"Keeping the Soviet rivalry aside we have an interest in helping our friends (in the Gulf) to defend themselves... and to achieve peace," he said.

Mr. Murphy outlined the following objectives of American policy in the Gulf:

- To curtail Soviet influence;
- To help moderate Gulf states to protect and defend themselves;
- To guarantee the free flow of oil from the Gulf; and

— To put an end to the Iran-Iraq war through a peaceful settlement which should be based on guaranteeing the sovereignty of both countries.

The American official reiterated that the American administration was determined to go ahead with its plan to reflag the oil tankers despite opposition by Congress.

"The President is determined to proceed with the reflagging," he said. "We are going in mid-July."

Mr. Murphy noted that although the American decision to accept the Kuwaiti request to protect its tankers by offering the U.S. flag which automatically entitles them to U.S. naval protection was not aimed at provoking Tehran."

"These measures would act as deterrent factors and are not intended to provoke Iran," he said, "we have no intention to protect belligerent cargoes... and Kuwait is not belligerent."

Mr. Murphy did not rule out the possibility that Tehran might

stage "sabotage" operations against the U.S. and the Gulf states. "Only time will tell what Iran will do against us and you," he said addressing the Gulf journalists.

The unintentional attack on Stark, in which 37 American marines were killed, has sparked a serious debate in the U.S. over the extent of American involvement in the Gulf.

Opponents of the reflagging plan in Congress have expressed fear that such an American commitment would drag the U.S. into a wider conflict. But, according to Mr. Murphy, the president's plan has been gaining a wider popular and congressional support. The official cited a newly-published poll which showed that 80 per cent of the American public agreed that the U.S. should protect its national interests in the Gulf.

Mr. Murphy, however, conceded that there was still "uncertainty about the reflagging" in Congress and among the public.

One of the strong arguments against the American operation has been that it could provoke violent Iranian reactions against the U.S. and the other "Gulf states. Mr. Murphy said that he was aware of the warnings that have been issued by a number of Iranian officials lately, but he stressed that the American plan was not aimed at provoking Tehran."

"These measures would act as deterrent factors and are not intended to provoke Iran," he said, "we have no intention to protect belligerent cargoes... and Kuwait is not belligerent."

Mr. Murphy did not rule out the possibility that Tehran might

The American official warned that the conference itself could not provide a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such a solution or settlement, he said, will only be reached through serious "deliberations" among the parties.

Mr. Murphy reiterated the already declared American position that the U.S. was not going to intervene in favour of the Labour Party in the internal Israeli debate over the international conference.

"We are not going to intervene, but we will continue to argue for peace," he said.

Mr. Murphy, who has been directly involved in negotiations to pave the way for peace talks in the Middle East, said that there had been a growing "positive trend" vis-a-vis the peace process in the area. He said this trend manifested itself in the various parties' growing acceptance of two important elements: the need to redress the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, and the significance of guaranteeing the "security" of Israel.

In Mr. Murphy's answers there was no reference to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) although he stressed that the "Palestinians should be represented in all stages of the negotiations within the framework of a Joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation."

According to the American official, the form of the Palestinian representation "has not been resolved yet."

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Mirror image

Richard Boston reflects on a scientific puzzle

WHY is it that when you look at your reflection in a mirror, your left hand becomes a right hand but your head doesn't become your feet? This may sound like a daft question but just try to come up with an answer.

It is a problem that for thousands of years has vexed the minds of such highly intelligent people as Plato, Lucretius, Kant and (in *Through The Looking Glass*) Carroll.

We can first clear out of the way any suggestion that it is something to do with optics of the crossing of light rays. When an image passes through the lens of a camera (or, indeed, the eye) it is received both left to right and upside down. The mirror is quite different since the reflection is symmetrical both horizontally and vertically.

What is odd about the mirror is that it changes the very nature of an object. If you find a glove in the street you can say instantly whether it is a left-hand glove or a right-hand one. As an object, a left-hand glove is as different from a right-hand glove as a glove is different from a shoe. In the mirror the left-hand glove does not become a shoe but it does become something equally different, namely a right-hand glove.

Just 20 years ago Martin Gardner, the star of the magazine *Scientific American* and an extremely clever man, published a book called *The Ambidextrous Universe* which discussed the question of whether left and right are human inventions or whether they actually exist in nature. His answer to the mirror problem is that it is due to a mental rotation. Our bodies have only one plane of symmetry which is down the middle, and the mirror reverses without discrimination on this axis. I hope I've got that right.

Recently, another extremely clever person has had a crack at the problem. Richard Gregory is Professor of Neuropsychology and Director of the Brain and Perception Laboratory at the University of Bristol. In his time he has been, amongst other things, a Professor of Bionics, he has edited the *Oxford Companion to the Mind*, founded the Bristol Exploratory and holds patents for more than thirty inventions. In short, he is a very brainy fellow.

In his 1981 book *Mind In Science*, and more recently in his collection of essays called *Odd Perceptions*, (Metaphysics), Professor Gregory puts forward the explanation that before we look at an object in the mirror we rotate it. Try it with a book: Rotate it horizontally and it appears upside down, because it is upside down: Rotate it on its vertical axis and its left becomes its right. While we see the back of the book, the mirror sees the front.

Enter another extremely clever person, Professor Lewis Wolpert, a biologist. Reviewing Gregory's book in the *New Scientist* Wolpert says, in the friendliest possible way, that he thinks Gregory is wrong. No matter how you rotate, say, a clock or corkscrew, clockwise becomes anti-clockwise, and vice versa. "Left-right relationships are of a quite different nature to up-and-down (as we embryologists know) and they can be related to an axis of rotation. When you look in a mirror, the direction in which you view the axis is reversed, and so the rotation and left-right symmetry are reversed in consequence." Since Professor Wolpert does not explain what is that we embryologists know, I find his argument as baffling as all the others.

Wolpert's review has caused a flurry of professional correspondence in the *New Scientist* which reveals an extraordinary division of opinion about what must surely be a matter of fact. Richard Gregory has repeatedly stated that if we face a mirror while standing on our heads, we are upside down but not left to right. Wolpert states the opposite.

Since I cannot stand on my head I have had to enlist help. Taking a firm grip on the ankles of the Comtesse I held her upside down in front of the mirror, determined to force the truth out of her, but she got the giggles, so that experiment was no good.

My respect for Richard Gregory is such that it is only with great trepidation that I dare to disagree with him and say that I think that in the mirror left is always right. Perhaps to another person, standing upright, the left hand of someone else upside down may be a left hand. I'm not sure about this. In fact, I am becoming less and less sure about almost everything. I spent nearly a week thinking about this mirror problem and the only result was a splitting headache. Still, it took my mind off the general election — The Guardian.

Haitian home for dying full of AIDS and love

By Elizabeth Abbott
Reuters

PONT-AU-PRINCE — Every year some 800 men and women enter Mother Teresa's home for the dying in the grim Port-Au-Prince slum of Cite Cadet. All but a few dozen meet death, there.

Founded six years ago, the home cares for people stricken by such diseases as tuberculosis and takes in the old and the destitute who have nowhere else to go.

Nowadays, more and more of the people who limp, crawl, or are carried to its doors are victims of AIDS, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

All but five per cent of the men and half of the women test positively for AIDS antibodies. Many are already dying of the disease, mums who care for them say.

Some die hours after arrival, bathed, garbed in cotton and fed bread and juice or creole soup if they can swallow it.

Others live a few days, and die renewed in the faith they sometimes reject in their rage and anguish.

"Many have suffered so much they forget God and become almost atheists", says Sister Kamal, the young Indian nun recently

appointed superior of this small convent.

"We care for them as we would Christ himself and soon they remember God and die accepting their fate and at peace," she adds.

The Missionaries of Charity, founded by Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the 1979 Nobel Peace laureate, dress in simple white Indian saris with three lines, symbolising vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

"They also take a fourth vow," explains American Missionary of Charity chaplain Father James Miles, on his annual Haitian mission, "to serve the poorest of the poor, those nobody wants, because whatever we do for the least and poorest of our brethren, we do for Jesus."

Haiti has been hard hit by AIDS. No-one has reliable figures on the death toll and doctors currently report some 1,500 active AIDS cases in the nation of six million. About a third of the patients are women.

But Haiti has only five hospital beds for AIDS patients. AIDS victims are desperately poor and unwanted, and most hospitals exclude people thought to have the disease.

The nuns begin their day with

mass and an hour of adoration of Jesus.

From 8 a.m. until noon, and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. they care for the dying and call on former patients temporarily strong enough to return to their families until they relapse and are brought back to the home.

The nuns also visit markets and churches in slums where they often find dying people abandoned by family and friends.

No religion is barred, and recently the nuns admitted a young mother blinded by pain during a voodoo ceremony.

Male patients far outnumber female. Most are in their 20s and early 30s, skeletal from debilitating diarrhoea, coughing from tuberculosis or lung cancer, and often pocked with skin eruptions ranging from psoriasis to cancer.

"I started feeling sick in January," says AIDS patient Adrien Paul, 23. An orphan, his cousins had left him at a church where a nun found him.

Paul's AIDS has not disfigured his skin and despite emaciation so severe his kneecaps are thicker than his thighs, his young face remains beauteous, almond-shaped eyes lustrous against dark skin and glistening white teeth. "I used to do little jobs when I

could find them," he says, tears welling as he recounts his story. "I used to carry things for people." Now he is so weak he can barely move.

"I'm counting on God to save me," he weeps. "I've never even been to the doctor or a hospital before."

"We only tell them what disease they have if they ask," says Sister Kamal. Priscille Danger, 34, does not ask.

"I'm so weak, so feeble I can't even sit up," she whispers, gasping for breath and then speaking of her three children, the youngest seven months old, the oldest 10 years.

Like Paul, Danger feels little pain, but her pretty face is livid with sores. The legs and small hands she politely holds out to visitors are scaly and mottled.

The home is not a hospital, the nuns are not all nurses, and patients see doctors only when volunteers arrive, so diagnosing illness is by educated guess and common sense.

Testing for AIDS and other diseases is not routine. Most patients are terminal, so treatment is palliative and not curative. Sponge baths, kind words, simple spoon-fed Haitian meals and clean beds are the usual regimen.

A homeless boy, 12-year-old Jean-Robert who came to Port-Au-Prince to make the living that eluded his single mother in the distant town of Benet, sits companionably with the men, though he is merely sick and not dying.

"Jean-Robert has severe stomach pains from ulcers and he was beaten up on the streets," says Father Miles. "We've discharged him from his bed but he keeps coming back because he has nowhere else to go, and we keep taking him back."

"Some few patients live here for several years," says Father Miles, "old people with nobody and nowhere to go, so we keep them here and look after them until they finally die."

Deaths, about two daily, are accepted calmly. Nobody cries out in distress as yet another body is swiftly removed to the morgue, near the chapel.

The nuns are told to be careful with needles and blood. They use gloves but fear masks would upset patients and distract from the spiritual comfort they believe is important as medicine.

"Divine providence is always at work, don't forget," says Sister Kamal. "Whatever happens, we're doing God's work as he wants us to."

Randa Habib's corner

Charity begins at home, Mrs. Klarsfeld

NAZI hunter Beate Klarsfeld has come to Jordan to "protest" against the visit of the Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

Mrs. Klarsfeld has brought with her what she calls a "file" on Dr. Waldheim's role in the deportation of Jews from the Balkans during World War II.

One can only admire the dedication of Mrs. Klarsfeld to her cause. But obviously she believes that she knows better than all the Austrian people who voted for Dr. Waldheim as their president. And that is why perhaps she thinks she could dictate to the whole world her attitude towards Dr. Waldheim.

In her mind, Jordan must not receive President Waldheim because the World Jewish Congress accuses him of "war crimes".

If that is the case I wonder if Mrs. Klarsfeld would join us, since we have the documents to prove it beyond any doubt, to hunt terrorists like Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir, both of whom led the Jewish terrorist groups of Irgun and Stern, which were responsible for killing and massacring hundreds of Arab women and children and British soldiers.

Maybe she could also help us desecrate the Nobel "Peace" price awarded to the former Israeli terrorist Menachem Begin. Maybe the distinguished lady, who seems so concerned about people's "rights" could help the Israeli people force Mr. Shamir to resign his post as prime minister so that peace could come to the Jews in the Middle East. If Mrs. Klarsfeld could do these things and correct the wrong done to Arabs in the Holy Land, then, and only then, will she have our sympathy and our respect.

The strange case of the wriggling clues

There is a very small band of scientists around the world whose specialised talents can pinpoint time of death — and other details — with extreme accuracy. David Owen describes how the study of maggots has become a powerful weapon in the forensic armoury.

CHICAGO — A cartoon on the wall of his rather smart University of Illinois office, between detailed maps of Latin America on the left and Picasso's "Guernica" on the right, hints at how sly

biologist Bernard Greenberg uses his time when he is not researching or teaching.

It depicts a healthy-looking maggot wearing a Sherlock Holmes-type deerstalker and a benevolent smile while brandishing a magnifying glass and looking for clues.

For the past 11 years, Greenberg has put his peerless knowledge of the life-cycle of carrion flies to eminently practical use by offering his services as a part-time forensic entomologist.

In layman's terms, Greenberg hopes to solve murder cases by studying the carrion fly maggots and pupae which often riddle victims' bodies. A detailed discussion of his art is unequivocally out for the squeamish.

"Carrion flies are like vultures; they make their living by finding carrion," Greenberg says, explaining how the tools of his macabre trade locate the dead tissue on which they depend to lay eggs. "Female flies have an extremely keen sense of smell," he adds. "They can sense something on the wind one mile, sometimes two, miles away: Their olfactory sense is better than a bloodhound's."

Greenberg's key contribution in most of the cases in which he has been involved has been to pinpoint the victim's time of death. By knowing how fast different species of fly grow and develop, from eggs in maggot pupae to adult fly under known temperature and weather conditions, an expert entomologist can help determine when a murder was committed — sometimes more accurately than coroners and pathologists.

Other vital details can also on occasions be deduced, such as whether or not a body has been moved. If, for example, the maggots or pupae of an urban fly like the common greenbottle are found on a corpse in a rural area, in Greenberg's words, "you have

to start thinking that maybe the body has been moved."

Since he was called by an enterprising Chicago assistant State Attorney for his advice on some colour photographs taken at an autopsy in 1976, the soft-spoken

Greenberg has worked on investigations from Orange County, California, to Providence, Rhode Island. "I have worked for both the defence and prosecution," he says. "I testified in the first homicide for 30 years in Brown County, South Dakota."

Despite Greenberg's expertise and track record, however, forensic entomology as a discipline both within and outside the U.S. is still in its infancy. In America he estimates there are "possibly half a dozen experts." Elsewhere he reels off another half dozen names located in Australia, Britain, Czechoslovakia and Japan.

"I have just received a paper on the subject from the Soviet Union," he adds almost as an afterthought.

While there is a story "which may be apocryphal" from 14th Century China about the use of flies in solving a crime in which the murderer weapon was a sickle, it was a Frenchman called Jean-Pierre Megnin, it seems, who first specialised in the study of carrion flies in the 19th Century. According to Greenberg, Megnin described various stages in the decomposition of a corpse "and at each stage, there would be more or less characteristic group of insects that would be present."

"Now" he adds, "there is very popular scientific interest in the U.S., although it never really got off the launching pad until quite recently."

Certainly police acceptance of the possible role of the likes of Greenberg in the solving of murders appears to have progressed considerably, since that chance telephone call of 11 years ago.

"The police used to look at maggots and say 'yuk. Kill them. Get rid of them,'" Greenberg recalls.

"Now they know to keep them alive so that I can rear them to the adult stage and confirm the species identification." — Financial Times news feature.

Magnetic grips improved

From Bulgarian Telegram Agency

SOFIA — The permanent magnetic grips, developed by the Lenin Higher Institute of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, differ from other similar electro-magnetic devices in that they do not drop their metal loads when there is a break in the current and in that they consume very little electricity.

The secret lies in the electrical pulse control of the devices. The new magnetising (and demagnetising) system charges the devices magnetically while they are working. This is done practically instantly: The controlling unit emits several short pulses (each of them several tenths of a thousand of a second long) and the load is stuck to the device. The load cannot be released unless the demagnetising button is pressed. This is the major shortcoming of conventional grips.

The guidelines under which the committees make their decisions have been hammered out by the Swedish Society of Medicine.

Aborted foeti may be used in Sweden, but other countries may not take such a liberal attitude, said medical experts at the Swedish Health Ministry, who declined to be named.

But a spokesman for the Association for the Neurologically Handicapped in Sweden said that they were keen on a continuation of the research despite the ethical problems.

The new magnetic grips will make it possible for the industrial manipulators to keep a stronger hold of the palette and containers and to transport all kinds of metal devices safely. The grips are designed on a modular basis and in different modifications. They can be used to replace

electro-magnetic cranes in the transportation of steel sheets.

They will also be used to replace the electromagnetic supports of the grinding machines which consume a lot of electricity and which, when overheated, cause deterioration in the precision of the treatment. The new grips will also be used in mechanical engineering for such purposes as holding component parts rigidly during welding operations. The grips will be fitted to all ice and electric trucks.

Some of the robots, made by the BEROE Works in Stara Zagora, are fitted with these magnetic grips. A number of them are already working in the Soviet Union.

The team of designers of the Lenin Institute is now working on the further improvement of their "brainchild." It has already gathered quite a big collection of medals and prizes, including the gold medal at EXPO '85, the World Exposition of Young Inventors in Plovdiv. A new demagnetising system has been developed in order to remove all traces of magnetic action from the load.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

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Lendl, Navratilova, Edberg into Wimbledon semifinals

Opponent's contact lens problem helped Edberg to the semis

WIMBLEDON, England (Agencies) — Top-ranked Ivan Lendl, desperately seeking a first Wimbledon championship, and Martina Navratilova, aiming towards a record sixth women's title in a row, advanced to the semifinals Wednesday with straight-set victories.

Also moving into the semifinals was Stefan Edberg of Sweden, the fourth seed, who continued an unprecedented advance of his own.

Navratilova, whose last defeat at Wimbledon was in the 1981 semifinals, beat unseeded Australian Dianne Balestrat 6-2, 6-1 in a quarter-final that despite the lopsided scoreline was competitive throughout with only one game being won to love.

Balestrat, who has beaten Navratilova three times but not since 1979, made an impressive start, winning the first two games with groundstrokes of such depth and precision that the champion looked unusually flustered.

But Navratilova pulled level by breaking in the fourth game from 30-love down and from then on it was the power of her volleys that dominated the match although Balestrat never lost the opportunity to surprise with passes down both flanks.

Edberg, seeded fourth in the men's draw, was helped by

Anders Jarryd's contact lens problem as he beat his Swedish Davis Cup teammate 4-6, 6-4, 6-1, 6-3.

The winner of the last two Australian Opens, Edberg never before had moved past the fourth round at Wimbledon.

All eight quarter-final matches were being played as the two-week tournament wiped out the final traces of a 139-match backlog left from rain the first five days.

Among the matches, Ivan Lendl, the world's top-ranked player, was opening on centre court against ninth-seeded Henri Leconte of France.

Following Navratilova on court number 1 were Pam Shriver and Jimmy Connors, two Americans who turned in great comebacks in the fourth round Tuesday.

Edberg, with four tournament championships to his credit this season, had early trouble against the unseeded Jarryd when he got a break from some dust and wind. Jarryd had problems with dirt

from the dusty outside court getting under his contact lenses and, after losing the first game of the third set, rushed into the locker room to clean and change lenses.

When he returned, it appeared he still was bothered by his eyes and served more than a dozen double faults, as Edberg sailed through the third set and built a 3-1 lead in the fourth.

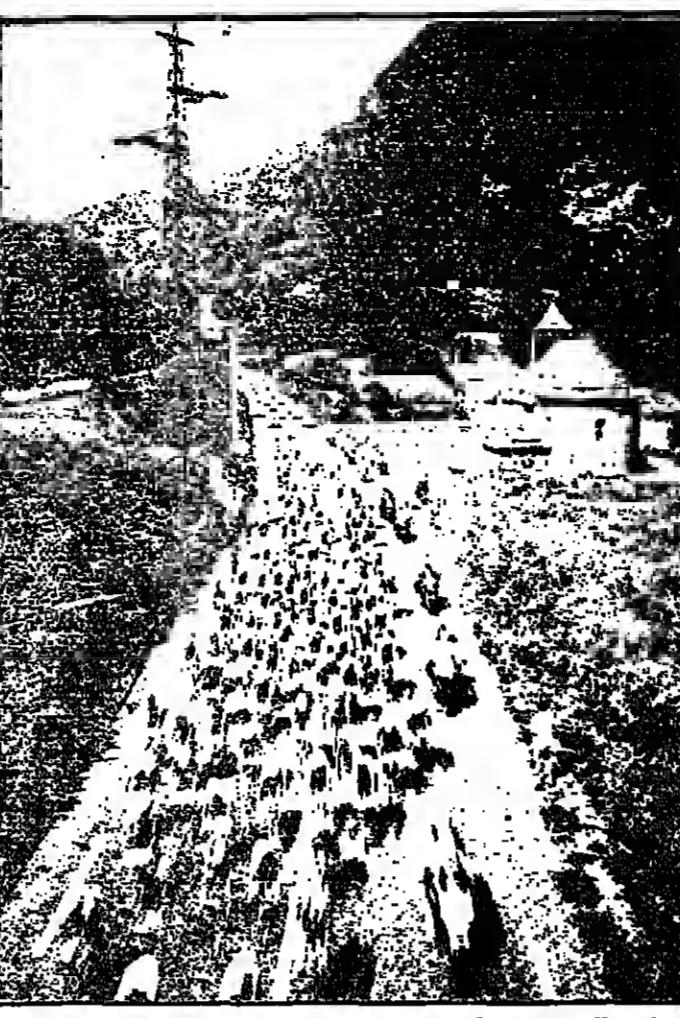
Jarryd battled back to 3-3, before Edberg broke for 5-3 and served out the match.

Becker's conquerer crashes out

Peter Doohan, who soared sky-high when he beat titleholder Boris Becker last Friday crashed to earth and out of Wimbledon to the thunderbolt serving of Slobodan Zivojinovic on Tuesday.

But if it is any consolation to Doohan, it is doubtful if the West German or any of the top players could have coped with the tremendous firepower of the big Yugoslav known as "Bobo."

The 26-year-old Australian was aced 24 times in the 6-2, 6-4, 7-6 fourth-round defeat and though he made a comeback of sorts, taking Zivojinovic to a 13-11 tiebreak, there was really only one man in it.



Hustling to the finishline through "la campagne de la France" during the last tour (Sygma photo)

Dutch Jelle Nijdam wins Tour de France prologue

BERLIN (Agencies) — Jelle Nijdam of the Netherlands clocked the fastest time in the individual time trial Wednesday, winning the right to wear the leader's yellow jersey in Thursday's opening stage of the 74th Tour de France.

Also, national leagues could be troubled by clubs refusing to limit foreign players from the EEC, leading to internal sporting difficulties, observers said.

"Some big teams have already bought more (EEC players), thinking it would be allowed" for the next seasons, Marin said.

Opening national leagues to an unlimited number of foreign players would drastically change the look and management of the sport. Although Marin said unilateral measures would be taken Wednesday, he added they would be gradual to limit the shock.

Border guards ran out and waved their arms for the errant cyclists to stop at a barrier about a 100 metres (yards) inside Communist territory.

Other guards looked on from watchtowers and took photographs as the sentries demanded passports of the sportsmen. Team leader Andy Hampsten, who finished fourth in last year's race, explained they did not take them away on training runs and negotiated for about five minutes.

Fearing a long delay, the team then seized upon a slack moment in security, turned their bicycles around and bolted back across the border line. Guards were unable to stop them but detained several accompanying reporters for about an hour. The Tour de France began Wednesday in West Berlin to mark the city's 750th anniversary this year.

EEC soccer talks break down

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The European Economic Community and the soccer authorities of its member states have failed to agree on ways to allow more foreign players in their leagues, raising fears of chaotic changes in the management of Europe's number one sport.

EEC Social Affairs Commissioner Manuel Marin said the EC Commission was expected Wednesday to "take the necessary steps to guarantee the free movement of soccer professionals of member states within the community," he refused to detail.

"We reached a total deadlock," Marin told reporters after a meeting with delegations of the Soccer Federation of the EEC states and European soccer's governing body UEFA.

Marin said this would open the

way for players, their associations or clubs to challenge federations before the European Court of Justice "to assure community law is respected."

Nine of the EEC soccer federations allow two foreign players per club, Belgium and Luxembourg allow three and Ireland has no limits.

Marin said that although the Commission had long been a mediator between clubs and players' associations demanding the abolition of limits, most national federations, it could "no longer play the role of shock absorber" after the breakdown of talks.

The team of a dozen cyclists, led by tour favourite Andy Hampsten, got lost and crossed the white border-line at the Staaken Crossing after their

Swedish high jumper sets new world record

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Sweden's Patrik Sjoberg smashed the world high jump record by clearing 2.42 metres (7.94 feet) on his third and final attempt on Tuesday.

The tall Swede, who improved Soviet Igor Paklin's old record by one centimetre (0.4 inch), had barely missed his first two tries at the DN Galan IAAF Mobil Grand Prix Track and Field meet.

Sjoberg, the world indoor record holder, had cleared 2.39 metres (7.84 feet) in a meet at Gotteborg, Sweden, last Saturday.

"I don't know what I would

have done had I failed on my final attempt. The two first were still awfully close," Sjoberg said.

The home favourite ran a lap of honour afterwards and several hundreds fans spilled into the ground, waving Swedish flags. Most of the 20,000 fans were still on hand for the final event of the day.

It was 67th world record set at the Olympic Stadium, more than any other site in the world.

Francesco Panetta of Italy, running solo in the last four kilometres earlier clocked the fastest time of the year in the 10,000 metres.

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ALL FOR THE BALL: Al Jazireh and Ba'a players battle for the ball during a match on Wednesday night at the Amman International Stadium. The match, which ended in a goalless

draw, was held within playoffs of the Premier Division tournament. Al Ahli leads the tourney with 4 points scored in two games (Photo by Yousef Alaa)

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Santander drops to second division after play-off

MADRID (R) — Spain's lengthy soccer season finally ended Tuesday night with racing Santander dropping to the Second Division after losing the final match in a play-off among the last three in the First Division.

With only one side dropping to

the Second Division, Osasuna of Pamplona, who beat Santander 2-0 on Tuesday night, and Cadiz now stay in next season's enlarged 20-side First Division.

The three teams moving up to the First Division are Valencia, Celta de Vigo and Logrones.

Chileans face uphill task to beat Brazilians in Cordoba

CORDOBA, Argentina (R) — Chile laboured to overcome Venezuela 3-1 (1-1) in a South American Cup Group B match Tuesday night and will have to make a marked improvement if they are to beat Brazil for a place in the semifinals.

The Chileans, expected to cruise to an easy victory against a side that fell 5-0 to Brazil on Sunday, were guilty of poor finishing in a first half that saw Venezuela surprisingly stay on level terms.

Early Chilean pressure, punctuated by incisive Venezuelan counterattacks, was rewarded with a 24th-minute opening goal by striker Juan Carlos Letelier.

But Chile failed to net several other chances and as their confidence waned the Venezuelans took heart, forcing the defence into errors.

Striker Wilton Arreaza enjoyed far better service from his midfield than against Brazil and provided a warning for Chile when he netted the ball from an offside position in the 20th minute.

Four minutes later he skilfully eluded three defenders on the left before Feroando Astengo, who plays for Brazil's Gremio, blocked Arreaza's centre with his arm.

Venezuelan captain Pedro Acosta beat Chilean captain Roberto Rojas with his penalty kick, the ball going in off the goalkeeper's right post.

American basketball player to renew contract with Tracer

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Former NBA star Bob McAdoo has extended his contract with European Basketball champion Tracer of Milan through 1988 and will play his second season in Italy, club officials have announced.

The American veteran, who

sources said that McAdoo would get nearly \$300,000 for a one-year extension of the contract.

McAdoo said recently that he planned to end his career in Italy.

Meanwhile, Tracer officials disclosed that they were negotiating for the transfer of American player Ricky Brown, from Ocean Brescia, as their second foreign player for the next championship. He would replace Ken Barlow, a young American who teamed with McAdoo last season.

Argentina with ailing Maradona faces elimination against Ecuador

BUENOS AIRES (R) — World champions Argentina, with captain Diego Maradona weakened by illness, need a convincing win in their match against Ecuador here Thursday or face elimination from the South American Cup.

Maradona told reporters Tuesday, the second day he missed training because of his ailment, that he would definitely play in the vital Group A match.

"I have a sore throat and I had a bit of fever but I'm going to play against Ecuador. There's no way I'm going to miss that match," Maradona said.

Argentina must come up with their first victory since winning the World Cup a year ago, and preferably by a big margin.

But even a big win will not guarantee Argentina a place in the semifinals.

They were held to a shock draw in the opening match of the tournament against Peru last Saturday.

When Peru faces Ecuador next Saturday in the final group match they will be in the enviable position of knowing exactly what they have to do to snatch a semifinal.

Basel, Aarau win playoff to stay in Switzerland's top division

GENEVA (AP) — F.C. Basel and F.C. Aarau retained their places in Switzerland's top soccer division by winning a relegation-promotion playoff designed to reduce the league to 12 clubs from 16.

Wrapping up the cup-style tournament Tuesday night, Basel thrashed Wettingen 7-0 to send it into the Second Division with a 8-2 two-leg total. Aarau kept Lugano in the Second Division with a 5-0 win after losing the first leg 1-0.

The eight-team playoff included the 11th to 14th-placed clubs in the First Division and the top four Second-Division finishers.

Locarno and L.A. Chaux-de-Fonds were already determined for relegation after finishing last in the First-Division championship. Vevey was the fourth top-league club relegated by the playoff.

THE Daily Crossword

ACROSS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1 Waste liquid	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5 Spy org.	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8 Parents	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
13 Grieves	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
14 Deer	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
15 Gor. river	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67
16 Gor. river	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79
17 Pre-med course	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
18 Pertinent	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
19 Shakespeare	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115
20 Blunder	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127
21 Blunders	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139
22 Relative of a condo	140</td											

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Wednesday.	
One Sterling	1.6230/40
One U.S. dollar	1.3290/3300
1.8220/30	U.S. dollars
2.0510/20	Canadian dollar
1.5105/15	West German marks
37.75/80	Dutch guilders
6.0800/50	Swiss francs
1320/1321	Belgian francs
146.60/70	French francs
6.3650/3700	Italian lira
6.6810/60	Japanese yen
6.8975/9025	Swedish crowns
One ounce of gold	Norwegian crowns
448.90/449.40	Danish crowns
	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Lack of interest from both retail and institutional investors saw shares move lower for the third consecutive session, with Wall Street's sharp fall on Tuesday and lower opening on Wednesday fuelling the decline, dealers said.

Shares moved lower across a broad front, and at 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 11.6 points at 2,272.5.

Dealers said the recent batch of rights issues, fears of more and funding worries over the forthcoming British Airports flotation, were weighing on sentiment.

Analysts said the institutions had squared up their books at the end of the quarter and were now working out the funds they require for the British Airports Authority flotation.

They pointed out that the BAA flotation will drain around £1.2 billion from U.K. investors.

Ferrari firmed a net 7p to 140 in the wake of a 22 per cent rise in annual pre-tax profits to £50.2 million, which compared with analysts' forecasts of around £46 million. Elsewhere in the electronics sector, GEC slipped 10p to 237 on a reassessment of Tuesday's final figures. Some brokers now have a "weak hold" recommendation for GEC.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Necessary changes concerning your usual duties should be accepted gracefully. Maintain a cheerful attitude despite some annoying conditions in your surroundings.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A person or situation at a distance from you may interrupt your plans. Avoid an argument with someone you're fond of.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Your plans for a good time may need revision, but don't let this bother you. One of your talents may cause problems.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Due to a confusing situation at home, you should not do any entertaining. Maintain a good attitude.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be cautious in driving and dealing with others. Recklessness in either could cause costly trouble.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You could lose a bundle if you're not clever in handling finances. Beware of wrong advice from a trusted adviser.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) You may have a good reason, but don't argue at home. If you do, some serious problems will result.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Scheduling your time more carefully will reduce tension in your life. Be more thoughtful of your mate and other relatives.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) All may seem to be going well, but there's an obstacle ahead — take it in stride. Watch out for angry friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be cautious and thoughtful in public. Doing something foolish would bother you later. Conditions are bad.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make a friend of a new acquaintance — the brush-off would be a mistake. Don't let worries distract you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Follow through on some plans you have made with your mate. Don't let an outsider distract you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Something turns up which will dissatisfaction with you an associate. Ignore this and try to remain objective.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have an easy life, so don't hesitate to give your child duties to perform which will teach him or her to work. Teach your progeny not to be too critical of others, so that he or she will learn to be more cooperative and gentle. A well-rounded diet is a must.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: An opportunity to finish up a drawn out project should be taken. Although difficult, changes must be made to clear up the confusion in your relationship with a friend.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) There will be a job which you must finish by noon today. Work on helping an associate clear up his problems.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Plan out the recreations you desire for the near future. Since conditions are changing, don't let anyone annoy you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Avoid any entertainment which may be very costly. Handle family matters carefully to avoid arguments.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) If you have any guests in tonight, listen carefully to them. Their advice may be very helpful.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Caution is needed when driving on the highway. Try to avoid a strange condition which you may encounter there.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) Seek out advice from a financial expert before attempting to handle confusing monetary or property matters.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Rather than swerving to avoid them, try to remove obstacles from your path. A friend may disappoint you tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) If your loved one is acting strangely, ask direct questions and get to the heart of the matter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be selective as to what groups you associate with in a social situation. Handle business before pleasure.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) An out-of-town message will clear up a problem which has been bothering you. Be cautious with figures.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A new contact could help your career opportunities, but you may have a tendency to say the wrong thing.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You'll know your mate's wishes even though they're not stated, so try to be pleasant. Handle a civic matter.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have a tremendous desire for knowledge, so be encouraging and expose your child to classic literature at an early age. Your son or daughter will seem to have little interest in others and difficulty communicating. A course in psychology would help this problem.

EC reaches final accord on agricultural policy reform

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Farm ministers of the European Community (EC) agreed Wednesday on a watered-down package of farm policy reforms designed to curb the EC's growing subsidies and surpluses.

The measures include a general freeze of guaranteed prices for farmers' produce, and a series of changes in regulations designed to curb overproduction.

The package had been in dispute for more than three months, creating political tensions among many of the trading bloc's 12 members.

Dropped from the deal was a proposed new tax on vegetable oils and fats that the United States and other EC trading partners had lobbied against as a protectionist move that could trigger a trade war.

The accord was reached by a majority vote shortly after dawn, several hours after a summit meeting of the EC heads of government or state settled two of the stickiest issues in the farm negotiations.

The Greek delegation to the farm talks voted against the package, while West Germany and Ireland opposed certain parts of it. Officials said they were pleased with the outcome, even though many of the measures were either removed or weakened in order to satisfy the majority.

"This does represent a further significant step in reform" of the trading bloc's common agricultural policy, said Mr. John MacGregor, the British farm minister.

The EC's agricultural policy includes a complex system of export subsidies, production incentives and guaranteed prices that shields Europe's farmers from the effects of falling world prices for agricultural commodities. It is blamed for creating huge surpluses of milk, grain and other products that are straining EC finances.

About 70 per cent of the Community's current budget of 36.2 European Currency Units (about \$41 billion) is spent on agriculture.

The exact wording of the farm agreement was to be worked out by lower-level officials later Wednesday and formally adopted on Thursday, according to Mr. Nicolas Wegter, a spokesman for the EC executive commission.

The agreement ended months of bitter wrangling over the proposal, which was supposed to have been decided by April 1, when the 1987-88 farm marketing year began.

Also part of the deal was a compromise method of phasing out a complex system of border levies that protects European farmers from the effects of changes in the value of EC member countries' currencies.

The compromise was worked out during the EC summit by French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and their aides.

SHARJAH, BANKS SEAL DEBT ACCORD

World Bank warns of declining growth

WASHINGTON (AP) — Both rich and poor countries face declining growth unless more West Europeans get jobs and the United States cuts its budget deficit substantially, the World Bank said in a report published Tuesday.

Rates of growth declined last year and the year before in Third World and industrial countries.

"On what we know to date, 1987 is not looking much better," said Mr. Constantine Michalopoulos, an American who directed preparation of the report.

The report predicts that growth in poor countries would be little better: 3.9 per cent compared with 3.6 per cent in 1980-86, 5.4 per cent in 1973-80 and 6.5 in 1965-7.

In poor countries, the individual fares worse because the population is increasing faster.

Since populations also grow, slow overall economic growth means that the income of the average citizen improves even more slowly.

"The low case ... assumes no major policy changes," the report says. It assumes that "the United States fails to cut its budget deficit by much, and European on-

per cent of the years 1965-73.

Though the differences seem small, these percentage points refer to trillions of dollars worth of production. In the United States, for example, a difference of only one-tenth of one per cent amounts to more than \$4 billion a year.

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Though the differences seem small, these percentage points refer to trillions of dollars worth of production. In the United States, for example, a difference of only one-tenth of one per cent amounts to more than \$4 billion a year.

Since populations also grow, slow overall economic growth means that the income of the average citizen improves even more slowly.

"The low case ... assumes no major policy changes," the report says. It assumes that "the United States fails to cut its budget deficit by much, and European on-

per cent of the years 1965-73.

Chun accepts opposition demands for direct presidential polls, reforms

SEUL (R) — South Korea's President Chun Doo Hwan, after "many sleepless nights", moved decisively Wednesday to end his worst political crisis, conceding opposition demands for free elections and agreeing an amnesty for his old foe Kim Dae-Jung and many political prisoners.

Mr. Chun, whose political legitimacy has been contested since he seized power in 1980 after a military coup, acknowledged that despite his own misgivings "the general public has an ardent desire to choose the president directly."

Accordingly, he said in a solemn television address, elections for the man to succeed him would take place under a new constitution, by a direct vote, and "on Feb. 25, 1988, I will transfer the reins of government to the president thus elected."

Mr. Chun's dramatic announcement followed three weeks of street turmoil sparked by his June 10 public presentation of Roh Tae-Woo, another former general, as his hand-picked successor.

The opposition said the ex-

isting indirect Electoral College system was rigged in favour of the government and had already vowed to boycott the vote.

"This is a real victory for the people," Kim Dae-Jung said after watching the president's speech on television.

The maturity of our people made the United States stop supporting a dictatorial regime and support democratic forces."

His political twin, hard-line opposition leader Kim Young-Sam, hailed the breakthrough as "the most important time in our 5,000-year history ...

At long last we will see a peaceful political revolution this year, through elections. The absolute majority of our people want an end to the military rule," he said.

It was good news too for the

barred organisers of next year's Seoul Olympic Games, after weeks when voices abroad questioned whether the strife-torn city would be capable of staging the world sports festival.

A Sports Ministry spokesman said: "All the dark clouds over the future of the Seoul Olympics have been cleared once and for all."

Wednesday's presidential announcement embraced virtually every demand made by an opposition long painted as dangerously radical. It was a personal triumph for Rob Tae-Woo, Chairman of Mr. Chun's Democratic Justice Party (DJP), who has stumped his personal name on the past three weeks of crisis.

Dismissed at the start as from a Chun clone, a device for the president and his military backers to hold on to power beyond 1988, Mr. Rob took the long-drawn-by-the-scruff-of-the-neck.

After days of apparently uninhibited debate, Mr. Rob nine days ago put to Mr. Chun a first party blueprint for democratic reforms to assuage the wave of public anger engulfing the streets

of Seoul and dozens of other cities.

The alternative being openly discussed in the press, and in every coffee house and bar, was for Mr. Chun to bring in troops to quell the unrest.

Mr. Rob persuaded the president to go back on his "irreversible" April 13 decision to shelve all debate on a new voting system until after next year's summer Olympic Games in Seoul.

The United States welcomed President Chun's promise of free elections and major political changes.

State Department Spokesman Nancy Beck said U.S. officials had not yet had time to study Mr. Chun's speech in detail, "but we certainly welcome his acceptance of the proposals, changes which Koreans have long awaited."

The major leaders have now agreed on the general shape of political reforms," the State Department said.

"We join the Korean people in urging all the parties to get down quickly to the hard work of creating a new political framework."

Opponent of Marcos picked as senate chief

MANILA (R) — The Philippines' ruling party has picked an anti-graft fighter and opponent of U.S. military bases as senate president, a powerful post regarded as a stepping stone to the presidency.

Twenty senators-elect of the Lakas Ng Bayan (People's Power) coalition unanimously voted at a caucus Tuesday night for veteran legislator Jovito Salonga to preside over the 24-member upper house of congress.

"We pray that we may be given a new vision of the causes we should serve," the 67-year-old Harvard-educated lawyer said after the vote.

President Corazon Aquino pledged to keep an "independent senate" in talk with reporters Wednesday, after calling Mr. Salonga to congratulate him on his victory.

As senate chief, Mr. Salonga is second after Vice-President Salvador Laurel in the line of succession to the presidency if anything should happen to Mrs. Aquino.

In the three times he ran for the senate, the soft-spoken Methodist lay preacher always emerged number one. He won more than 12 million votes in the May 11 legislative election.

"As senate president, he would have a power of appointment within the chamber and calendar issues for debate," another opponent of the bases, senator-elect Renato Saguisag, told Reuters. "If prudently used, it is a very powerful position."

Angolan rebels make fresh offer on reopening railway

LISBON (R) — Angola's UNITA rebels said Wednesday they would declare a ceasefire along the Benguela Railway linking Zaire and Zambia to Angola's Atlantic seaboard after an alleged government military offensive ends.

A statement signed by UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) leader Jonas Savimbi said the rebels were on full alert to "frustrate the big Cuba-Soviet push" though the Angolan government has denied any offensive.

"When the military campaign is over UNITA will declare a unilateral ceasefire along the Benguela Railway so Zaire, Zambia and the Angolan government can reflect again on our offer to reopen the line," the statement distributed in Lisbon said.

UNITA said last April it would allow the 1,300 kilometres line to reopen if conditions, such as the exclusion of military traffic, were

charges for several months.

Free for medical reasons, Mr. Salonga lived for three years in self-exile in the United States, returning in 1985 to help the opposition campaign against Marcos, who was eventually ousted in an army revolt in February 1986.

Long regarded as a presidential prospect, Mr. Salonga said he thinks he may be too old for the next presidential contest in 1992.

Mr. Salonga previously headed the presidential commission on good government, a body charged with recovering Marcos' alleged ill-gotten wealth.

He has campaigned for the removal of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base — America's largest military facilities overseas — from the Philippines, calling them an affront to Filipinos' sovereignty.

Senate sources said that as senate head, Mr. Salonga would have a persuasive role when the issue of whether or not U.S. lease on the bases should be extended beyond 1991, when the bases treaty lapses.

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SENATE takes to take Aida to Giza pyramids

ROME (R) — An Italian theatre company announced plans to perform Giuseppe Verdi's opera Aida against the dramatic backdrop of the Sphinx and the pyramids of Giza near Cairo. Teatro Petruzzelli, of Bari, southern Italy, said eight open-air performances of the opera, which had its premiere in Cairo in 1871, would be staged at Giza between Sept. 21 and 29. In May, the Verona Opera performed Aida at the Temple of Luxor beside the Nile, with tenor Plácido Domingo in the role of the Radames. Teatro Petruzzelli said a huge open-air stage would be built for September's performances and dozens of horses, camels and other animals brought on for the triumphant march "Gloria All' Egito," which marks the finale of the opera. The company said seating would be erected for 5,000 people.

Bolshoi Ballet returns to U.S.

NEW YORK (R) — The Bolshoi Ballet made its first U.S. appearance in eight years amid tight security after anti-Soviet demonstrators taunted fans and police discovered a fake hand grenade. Authorities stepped up security at the Lincoln Centre arts complex because of a wave of violent protests at performances by Soviet cultural troupes. The start of Tuesday night's Bolshoi performance was delayed 30 minutes because all 3,800 spectators entering the theatre were checked by security personnel. The Moscow ballet company opened its show with the U.S. premiere of Dmitri Shostakovich's rarely-staged Golden Age, a 1920s-style contemporary jaunt between dogmatic marxists and freestyle capitalists. Despite the tough security and the heckling by demonstrators, spectators were enthusiastic about the performance. "Fantastic, it's so advanced with many new steps and the costumes are great," one said.

Danish hot-dog man starts walk to Paris

COPENHAGEN (R) — A 52-year-old Danish hot-dog seller set off Wednesday to walk 2,000 kilometres to Paris pulling his cart after making a bet in a moment of high spirits. Freddy Risom said that after Denmark played a football match in France he bet a friend just 35 øre (five cents) that he could do the walk. He left from Copenhagen Town Hall on a route that will take him through West Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium. He hopes to reach the French capital on Sept. 30.

Students take revenge on canteen manager

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow University teachers and students tired of bad food took revenge on their canteen manager by refusing to elect her as a local councillor, a Soviet newspaper said. Irina Dodonova stood unopposed in a district where most of the voters were students and academic staff, yet was the only candidate in Moscow who failed to reach the 50-per-cent share of the vote required to win a seat. Literaturnaya Gazeta said. It said Dodonova was capable of producing fine meals and good service when Communist Party officials or foreign delegations ate at her canteen. But regular customers knew the unpalatable truth about her food and "the voters expressed their opinion on Dodonova's business qualities" Literaturnaya Gazeta added.

Firm sells 28 million condoms

MELBOURNE (R) — An Australian-based company Wednesday announced a contract to supply 28 million condoms to a new anti-AIDS foundation set up by British millionaire businessman Richard Branson. Pacific Dunlop said in a statement that its Ansell International Division, the world's largest producer of condoms, had signed an exclusive long-term contract to supply the Virgin Record and Travel Group, set up the foundation with £5 million (\$8 million) of his own money as a non-profit health care organisation to combat AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) among British youth. The foundation will supply outlets with condoms at budget prices, Pacific Dunlop said.

Tighter safety ordered after Polish air disaster

WARSZAWA (R) — Poland's state airline LOT has been ordered by the government to enforce stricter engine checks following the death of 183 people in the country's worst air disaster in May.

An official report into the crash of an Ilyushin 62 blamed the crash on an overheated bearing, which caused an explosion disabling both the airliner's port engines.

The report, published Tuesday night, ordered LOT to reduce the interval between engine checks from 3,000 to 2,500 flying hours.

An inquiry found that damage to the steering gear and a fire in the cargo hold, of which the pilots were unaware, meant that a safe

landing was practically impossible.

The Soviet-built Ilyushin was only 5,700 metres short of the main runway at Warsaw airport, which it had left 54 minutes before, when it crashed into a pine forest on the outskirts of the capital on May 9.

The plane's inner port engine had shattered as the Ilyushin cruised at 8,200 metres over Grudziadz, about 200 kilometres north west of Warsaw.

Exploding metal parts sliced into the fuselage, causing the decompression of the passenger cabin, rupturing fuel lines and steering gear and destroying vital electricity generators.

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